

DOE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEWS

DOE SEEKS COMMENTS ON PLANS TO SELECT A NEW CONTRACTOR TO OPERATE BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

The U.S. Department of Energy is seeking comments on its "Strategic Solicitation Plan" for the selection of a new contractor or contractor team to operate Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island, New York.

On May 1, 1997, Secretary of Energy Federico Peña announced that he was terminating the current contract with Associated Universities, Inc., to manage and operate Brookhaven, and that a new contractor would be selected within six months. He also committed to seeking comments from the public, employees and other interested parties on how this selection would be carried out and what criteria would be used in selecting a new contractor.

The Strategic Solicitation Plan issued today details DOE's proposed approach to carrying out this selection process. To the extent possible, it reflects comments provided to DOE from employees and stakeholders at Information Exchanges on the solicitation process conducted May 28 and 29, 1997.

The Strategic Solicitation Plan provides information on: 1) Brookhaven National Laboratory and its missions; 2) how DOE intends to involve employees, stakeholders and offerors in the solicitation process; 3) how the Source Evaluation Board (SEB) will carry out the selection process; 4) what approach DOE proposes to take in the procurement; 5) what key contract documents will be involved; and 6) other information helpful to understanding the selection process.

The Strategic Solicitation Plan is available from the DOE Chicago Operations Office Home Page: <http://www.ch.doe.gov/bnlseb>, and on computer disk by request.

In addition, Strategic Solicitation Plan Workshops will be conducted on Long Island on June 24 and 25, 1997. These workshops are intended to give prospective offerors, members of the public and employees opportunities to learn more about the Strategic Solicitation Plan and to provide specific comments and suggestions on DOE's proposed approach, including potential evaluation criteria and their respective importance. Each workshop will be tailored to the needs and interests of one of these three groups, although members of the public and employees are welcome to attend any of the three workshops. Prospective offerors may attend either session scheduled at off-site locations, but may not attend the employee-focused session at Brookhaven Laboratory.

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The specific times and locations are:

Public:	June 24, 1997	6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Longwood Jr. High School 198 Longwood Road Middle Island, (Long Island) New York (516) 345-2700
Employees:	June 24, 1997	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Berkner Auditorium Brookhaven National Laboratory Long Island, New York
Prospective offerors:	June 25, 1997	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Radisson Hotel Islandia 3635 Express Drive North Hauppauge (Long Island) New York (516) 232-3000

Comments received on the Strategic Solicitation Plan will be used in developing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to be issued in early July. The RFP will detail the qualifications and expectations DOE has of a contractor. A Preproposal Conference will be held in mid to late July for organizations considering proposing. While this will deal primarily with technical aspects of proposal preparation, it will be held on Long Island and be open to anyone interested in attending. Proposals will be due in late August. The RFP will also be available on the Chicago Operations Home Page and by disk.

The SEB will evaluate the proposals against the Source Evaluation Criteria and make findings on the strengths and weaknesses of each offeror's proposal against each of these criteria. The Board's findings will be presented to the Source Selection Official for his decision. Announcement of DOE's decision on the new contractor is expected in early November.

Those seeking additional information on the Brookhaven competition should contact:

U.S. Department of Energy
Source Evaluation Board for Selection of a Contractor for
Brookhaven National Laboratory
9800 S. Cass Ave.
Argonne, IL 60439
Email: brookhaven.panel@ch.doe.gov

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